

Lang Lecturer says:

"How can others know us? by our love for each other"

By Anne McWilliams

"God is the who and love is the what that holds the family together. In fact, the who and the what are the same, for

I John 4 says God is love." John Hill Westbrook told students, faculty, and former students, of Mississippi Baptist Seminary gathered to hear the Lang Lectures.

These lectures were established in 1981, in memory of the seminary founder, Herbert Lang. Westbrook, pastor of the Antioch Baptist Church, Houston, Texas, and Bobbie Jean Nichols, who works with the SBC Home Mission Board's department of National church development and black church relations, were chosen as this year's lecturers. They spoke March 29-April 1 at seminary centers in Jackson, Vicksburg, and Prentiss.

On "Preaching in the '80's," Westbrook said, "The minister's audience is far different now than in the 50s and 60s—more knowledgeable." He suggested three themes for sermons in this decade: (1) The basic thing that holds the family together is love (2) Let the people know who they are and whose they are—I am someone because I am a child of God. Therefore, I have identity, purpose, and meaning. (3) You can't ever get out of God's reach or beyond his care.

In his lecture on family love, he described Jesus engaged in discussion:



John Westbrook, left, talks with Richard Brogen, president of Mississippi Baptist Seminary.

"No crowds. No multitude. Just family. The Supper is over. Feet have been washed. Judas has taken the sop and is gone. Jesus huddles these eleven close to him. I imagine he says, 'Listen, fellows, I have a new commandment. It's not profound, just practical. I want you to love each other. This is the only way all men will know you are my disciples, if you love each other. Please love each other.'"

"How can others know who we are?" Westbrook added. "Not by the crosses we wear; not by the crosses we bear; not by the churches we attend; not by the ten commandments we keep; not by the seminaries we attend; not by the 'reverential' titles we hold; not even by the love we have for sinners; NO! But by the love we have for each other. By the love we have for members of the family."

Antioch Church is affiliated with the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. It is the oldest black church in (Continued on page 2)

Convention sells Kittiwake tract

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board has sold the 13-acre tract of land in Pass Christian which was once Kittiwake, its state Royal Ambassador Boys Camp.

The camp was blown away in 1969 along with the original Gulfshore Baptist Assembly nearby. Gulfshore was rebuilt four years ago, but the state RA camp was relocated near Kosciusko at Central Hills Baptist Retreat.

The sale of the land was to Aaron Wilson, a Gulf Coast realtor, who re-

sold two acres of the property to the Gulf Coast Baptist Association.

The Association will use the two acres, which front Second Avenue in Pass Christian, as a church site for the Pass Christian Baptist Mission, which now meets in rented facilities. First Baptist Church, Long Beach, is the sponsoring church.

The money for the two acre church site comes from a grant of \$32,000 from the Mississippi Baptist State Mission Offering through its New Church Expansion Committee and the deed of a piece of property valued at \$8,000 from the Gulf Coast Association. The total church site price comes to \$40,000.

The entire 13 acres was sold to Wilson, who then resold the two acres, because of an understanding by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board that it would not break the property up into parcels for sale.

Total selling price of the 13 acres, which front Highway 90, is \$260,000 with \$60,000 down and the MBCB holding the first mortgage. If Wilson sells any portion of the property, that portion of the mortgage will be paid off immediately.

David Spencer, pastor of First Baptist Church, Long Beach, said the property was established in 1936 as a girls' camp. Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Hunt, who are still members of the Long Beach church, bought it in 1948 and continued its use as a camp until the MBCB bought it for a boys' camp in 1955.

Spencer said the worship center for the old Camp Kittiwake, called "Temple of the Pines," was on the two acres which will now be used to build church facilities.

Michael Hutchinson, a student at New Orleans Seminary, is pastor of the mission which averages 40-50 in worship services and about 30 in Sunday School.

Barnes elected to N. O. school

Robert B. Barnes, for 15 years pastor of the First Baptist Church, Poplarville, Miss., was elected to the faculty of the School of Christian Training of the New Orleans Seminary.

Barnes is a native of Atlanta and a graduate of Mercer University at Macon, Ga. He earned the bachelor of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from New Orleans Seminary.

Earlier pastorates include that of Bonner Creek Baptist Church, Franklinton, La.; Angie Baptist Church, Angie, La.; and Highland Baptist Church, Metairie, La.

Barnes is a widower with three grown children.

While at Poplarville, he was moderator for the Pearl River Baptist Association, pastor advisor for the Mississippi Baptist Student Union, and member of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Bold Mission Thrust overseas is meeting most of its challenges

By Bill Webb

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—At the first-quarter mark of Bold Mission Thrust, overseas personnel are ahead of schedule but evangelistic results are behind.

If the numbers of missionaries, volunteers and countries where they work continue to increase as they have the first six years, they will surpass Bold Mission Thrust challenges for the year 2000, according to J. Winston Crawley, Foreign Mission Board vice president for planning.

However, totals for overseas Baptist churches and mission points, church membership and annual baptisms are behind the pace needed to achieve the projected tenfold increase by the end of the century.

The categories for missionaries, countries and volunteers are the ones over which Southern Baptists, through the board, have the most control. "The other four are merely the reporting of work that is primarily that of national Baptists, who have their own plans for the development of the work," Crawley explains.

Church membership overseas is about 96 percent of what it should be to be on schedule for reaching Bold Mission Thrust challenges. Baptisms stand at about 91 percent, churches, 87 percent; and churches and mission points combined (including the figures in the "churches" category), nearly 81 percent.

Crawley cautions against using the figures in these categories alone to judge Southern Baptist evangelistic performance. Missionaries impose neither statistical goals nor evangelistic strategy overseas; rather they are partners with individual Baptists, churches and conventions in each country. The statistics reflect cooperative efforts of missionaries and national Baptists.

Even though statistics related to evangelistic response are short of projected challenges for six years, Crawley points out encouraging signs based on 1981 reports.

One is the rapidly escalating number of nationals enrolled in overseas seminaries and theological education by extension. Seminary enrollment during 1981 totaled 5,643, more than 15 percent higher than 1980, while extension enrollment increased to 6,936, up 20 percent.

That increasing force of National Baptist leadership will be complemented by an increasing number of career missionaries on the field—up a strong 134 in 1981 over 1980.

Crawley also sees encouragement in the strong evangelistic fervor and response in places like Brazil, Korea, the Philippines and several African countries. And though church membership and baptisms have fallen short of projected results since 1975, each improved by more than 15 percent during the past year, well ahead of the annual rate needed to achieve Bold Missions figures projected for the year 2000.

The one goal Southern Baptists are likely to shatter long before the end of the current century is for 10,000 volunteers per year. In 1981, 4,646 served overseas, more than double the number needed to remain on target for the ultimate challenge.

As of Dec. 31, 1981, Southern Baptist missionaries overseas totaled 3,136, more than the 3,100 needed to stay on track for 5,000 missionaries by the year 2000. With work in 95 countries, the board also is ahead of the pace needed for the ultimate Bold Mission Thrust goal of 125 countries.

Overseas churches related to Southern Baptist missionaries baptized a record 127,337 believers in 1981, short of the 140,000 needed to stay on schedule for the end of the century.

The actual number of churches is 11,470 compared to the 13,180 needed to remain on target for Bold Mission Thrust. Churches and mission points combined total 25,905, much fewer than the 32,130 needed to keep pace.

(Webb writes for the FMB.)

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Committee will withhold its report on nominations

By Toby Druin

MIDLAND, Texas (BP)—Southern Baptists will have to wait until the first day of the annual convention, June 15, to learn who the 1982 Committee on Boards is nominating to serve on denominational boards, commissions and standing committees.

Committee chairman Daniel Vestal, pastor of First Baptist Church in this west Texas city, said the committee voted at the conclusion of its March 29-30 meeting in Nashville, Tenn., not to reveal the nominees until the first day of the convention, following SBC bylaw 16.8, which says: "The report of the committee shall be published in the first day's Bulletin and may be amended on the floor of the convention by majority vote of those voting."

The report of the committee on boards has been in the spotlight the last few years because of the stated goal of one faction to gain control of SBC boards, commissions and agencies.

The 1981 committee on boards broke from precedent and a strict interpretation of the bylaws stipulation to release its list of nominees in mid-April. The report ignited instant controversy in that several persons eligible for renomination were not renominated. Generally, persons may serve two four-year terms, and are renominated for the second term unless there is "good and sufficient reason" not to.

At the 1981 annual meeting Kenneth L. Chafin, pastor of South Main Baptist Church in Houston led an effort to return four of those "bumped." The messengers restored the four to their places, overriding the recommendation of the 1981 committee on boards. Another 1981 nominee was rejected in favor of a pastor who purportedly had a better record of denominational service and support.

Vestal said two or three persons eligible for renomination this year will not be renominated for "unique personal—not doctrinal—reasons." He did not elaborate.

Vestal said the controversial nature of last year's report was discussed during the committee meeting, but insisted the decision to withhold the release of the nominees was not dictated by last year's controversy. "We tried to see it not as a negative decision, but as a positive decision," he said, explaining the decision was not unanimous but a "strong" one.

The committee felt, Vestal said, emphasizing it was their decision, not his, that before 1981 the precedent was to release the list of nominees the first day of the convention. "This has been something the convention has done for years and it has served us well. We felt no reason to change it."

"We weren't trying to plow any new ground or set any new agenda. We were just trying to do the job . . . the

best way we knew. We think we did."

Vestal said he hopes the report, which will suggest more than 200 persons for various SBC posts will not be controversial. "I have been a Baptist long enough to know you shouldn't predict what might or might not happen, but I feel good about the report."

Vestal said people who argue for release of the nominees early should trust the committee.

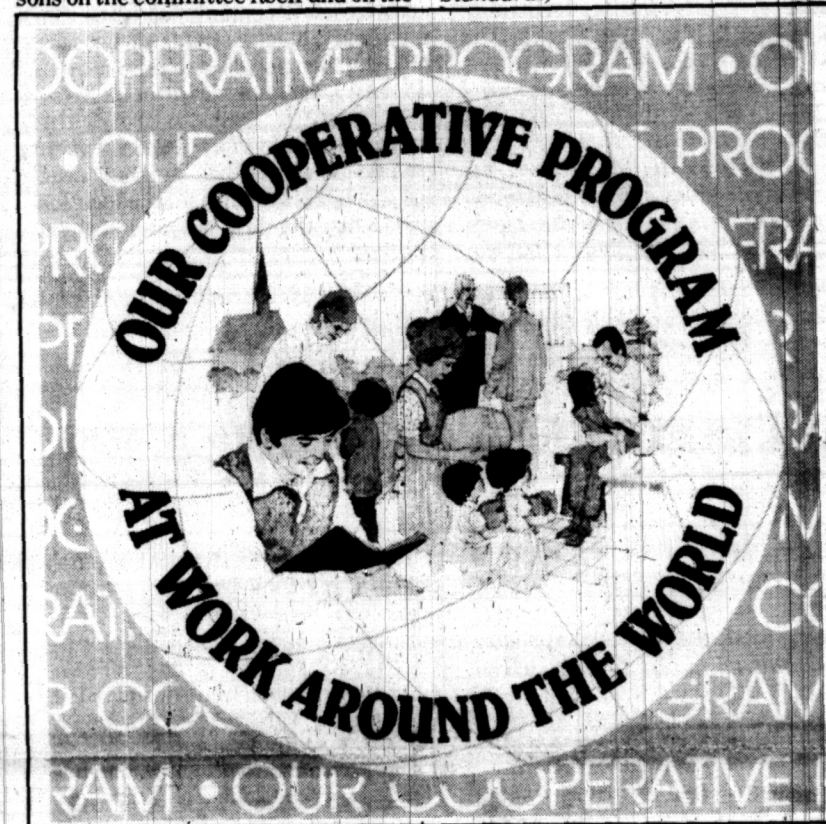
The committee laid down its own guidelines, eliminating some persons from consideration, Vestal said. Under the guidelines, he added, persons on the committee itself and on the

1981 committee on committees were not eligible for nomination.

The committee members, Vestal said, were diverse theologically and geographically, but "had a common commitment and, I felt, a tremendous sense of integrity. I really felt that. They had a desire to come and do the work of the committee in the name of Christ, in the spirit of Christ."

"I felt a sense of unity," he said, "not unanimity about every person or every issue, but I did feel a sense of unity."

(Druin writes for the Texas Baptist Standard.)



Cooperative Program Day is April 18, 1982

Since 1977, Southern Baptists have been striving to double their Cooperative Program giving from a total of

\$150 million to a total of \$300 million by the end of 1982.

The year 1982 is more than one-fourth completed. Southern Baptists continue to stress Bold Mission Thrust, and bold mission giving through the Cooperative Program continues to escalate. Great things are happening in Southern Baptist churches and in Cooperative Program giving.

What can Baptists and their churches do to help this bold dream come true? One thing is to call the churches' attention to the various ministries supported through their Cooperative Program giving. A good time to do this would be on April 18, this year's Cooperative Program Day in the churches. Make this Cooperative Program Day an exciting one in the life of the church.

For special Cooperative Program resource materials and information on how to prepare for Cooperative Program Day in church, look over the special insert in the March issue of *The Baptist Record*. Contact the Mississippi Baptist stewardship office for additional information and resource materials.

As the Bold Mission Thrust countdown goes on, make this year's Cooperative Program Day a day to remember.

March mission receipts take tally to \$3,418,764

March Cooperative Program receipts of \$1,146,091 from the churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention were \$373,768 more than for the same period of last year, according to an announcement by Earl Kelly, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The March receipts for 1982 brought the total missions gifts for the year-to-date to \$3,418,764, Kelly noted. This is an increase of \$552,609 over the first quarter of 1981.

The increase for the month amounted to 48.4 percent while the increase for the quarter was 19.2 percent.

Based on an annual budget of

Parchman center plans begun

Plans for the Baptist Equipping Center at the Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman are underway. A tract of land has been purchased adjacent to the prison only ¼ of a mile from the main gate.

The center is to serve as the hub of activity for Parchman Prison Ministry, which is sponsored by the Sunflower Baptist Association and supported by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the Home Mission Board, and other associations and individuals.

The center will house the office of Ovis Fairley, who directs the ministry, aimed primarily at prison staff. It will also be used for Bible study, counseling, worship and training of volunteer.

Two things the Equipping Center needs are materials and volunteers. The materials needed include the whole range of building supplies for the center. And the volunteers are needed to build the center itself.

Those interested in helping with materials or labor may contact Ovis Fairley, Box 66, Drew, Miss.: 38737, phone (601) 745-2751, or Sunflower County Baptist Association, c/o Granville Watson, Box 646, Moorhead, Miss.: 38761, phone (601) 246-8404.

The Record speaks

Support of worker with deaf was result of reading Record

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Stennett, members of First Baptist Church, Corinth, read a story in the Jan. 4, 1979, *Baptist Record* about a Gulfport couple providing support for a Mission Service Corps volunteer in Brazil for a year, and decided they wanted to provide similar support for some mission worker.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lenaz of Gulfport had committed themselves as sponsors for a young person from Texas who would live with Brazilian Baptist families, witness to students, and teach conversational English. They would pay \$3,500 for one year's work of that one volunteer.

Stennett, who formerly worked with the Chamber of Commerce in Corinth, is now retired. After he and his wife read the article in the *Baptist Record* they talked to their pastor, John Causey, and then asked the Home Mission Board to choose a place of work and a person for them to sponsor. The Board selected John Renfro, who served as Mission Service Corps worker among the deaf in southeast Louisiana. Happy with the first year's results, the Stennetts provided another \$3,500 for a second year's work, same person and place. Renfro is now an associate pastor in Texas.

"This brought a lot of pleasure to us," said Mrs. Stennett. "We really became more interested in the work with the deaf in Louisiana, and learned more about it, as we kept up with John and what he was doing." Renfro spoke in First Church, Corinth, which has had a ministry with the deaf for a good many years.

Lang Lecturer says:

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(Continued from page 1)

Houston—115 years old—and its 108-year-old building is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. It now has 1500 active members, 900 having joined since Westbrook went as pastor three years ago. (Last year he baptized 85.) It is a downtown church; some commute as far as 30 miles. A lot of the members have lived in Houston less than 18 months, the pastor said.

To combat his fear of the church's getting too big and impersonal, he and his congregation have tried many ideas for helping the families to build close ties. For instance, the adoptive grandparent idea "has brought some lonely people out of their homes." Once a month the pastor introduces the newest members and assigns a sponsor to each new family, to guide them around a new city, and to aid them spiritually. One Sunday night a month, everybody with a birthday that month must be responsible for a part of the service—sing, preach, play an instrument, etc! This proved to be a talent mine.

Born in Groesbeck, Texas, Westbrook is a graduate of Baylor and Midwestern Seminary and Southwest Missouri State. This was his second engagement in Mississippi. In 1971, he was commencement speaker at the Mississippi Baptist Seminary while he was employed with the student ministries department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville. He was the first black football player as a halfback at Baylor to make the starting line-up of a Southwest Conference team.

Miss Nichols' lectures were on Christian education in black churches. "Traditionally," she said, "the black church is a preaching church, but the

laity is beginning to assert itself. It is a new day. Christian education is becoming more a part of black churches, more a desired part of them." Two hurdles so far, she pointed out, have been the lack of personnel trained for teaching jobs and the lack of money in church budgets to pay education directors or other staff members in addition to pastors. "Up to now, unpaid volunteers in many churches have carried on an education ministry."

Born in Montgomery, Ala., Miss Nichols was graduated from Alabama State, Southern Seminary, and Western Michigan University.

She stressed, "There's not much in Christian literature written by the blacks, but we need some written by them, to speak to the black experience. The black churches are asking for this, are hungry for this. It is important that the blacks write some of the church literature today for use in other churches, too. We want to be givers as well as receivers. I'm not saying that all the materials in our churches should be written by blacks, but some should. The basic principles of Christian education are the same, black or white—but the translation of these, based on the writer's experience, differs."

The Home Mission Board's black church relations department, she said, is taking the leadership in building bridges for Christian education. "Increasingly, black Baptist churches are aligning themselves with the Southern Baptist Convention. No attempt in our department is made to proselytize these churches. They come on their own decisions, as they see their need for resources for Christian education and realize that SBC provides such resources."

Before she began her present work with the Home Mission Board, Miss Nichols taught social work and religion at Alabama State. Previously appointed by the Home Mission Board, she worked in Baltimore and in Washington, D. C.

While in college she worked as a summer missionary in Huntsville, Ala. That clinched her belief that God wanted her in full-time Christian service. "To young people I say, one way to test your call to Christian service is to try it out by being a summer missionary."

Egyptian Baptists meet with Israeli group

NAZARETH, Israel (BP)—Baptists in Israel recently participated in two international meetings sure to promote mutual appreciation and Baptist unity in the Middle East and Europe.

Egyptian and Israeli Baptists meeting in Nazareth agreed to encourage special conferences, speaking teams, youth exchanges and other forms of cooperation.

During a three-week Bible conference at Baptist Village in Petah Tiqva, believers from western Europe, eastern Europe and the Middle East said they gained a renewed zeal for personal evangelism.

About 40 participants in Petah Tiqva followed a weekly schedule of four days of Bible study and lectures on Christian leadership and church growth, and three days of field trips to biblical sites in the coastal plane, Galilee and Negev areas.

A grass-roots desire for evangelism is beginning among believers in Europe and the Middle East," said William Wagner, Foreign Mission Board consultant for evangelism and church growth for Europe and the middle East. "They want to go out and win people to Christ."

In the Nazareth meeting Egyptians Milad Philipps, president of the Egypt



Foy Valentine, left, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, was the principal speaker at the retirement banquet for Clark Hensley. At right Hensley and Mrs. Hensley listen during Valentine's remarks. Other speakers were Paul Jones, executive director-elect of the Mississippi Christian Action Commission, and Ann Alexander Smith, a former commission member now working for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. Mr. and Mrs. Russell McIntire of New Orleans presented special music. McIntire once served as associate pastor during a Hensley pastorate in Missouri.



Earl Kelly, above left, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, addresses the crowd at the banquet honoring Clark Hensley on his pending retirement. The banquet was held in the fellowship hall of Alta Woods Baptist Church in Jackson.

Banquet honors Hensley



The appreciation dinner for J. Clark Hensley, as he prepares for retirement as executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission, was presided over by W. W. Walley, physician of Waynesboro, commission chairman. In the photo above, Walley, left, presents Hensley a check, a book of letters, and a pocket watch.

Women are not trying to take men's places of service: Gregory

By Everett Sneed

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (BP)—"The role of women in Southern Baptist life has decreased substantially in the last 10 years," said Christine Gregory, first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention. "I really could get discouraged about it."

The problem, she said, is compounded by the fact that a host of women are graduating from our seminaries who want to be involved in ministry, but have no place to go except into home missions or foreign missions. "This may be good," she said, "because it may be the Lord's way of leading us to get more people into mission service."

Gregory feels there are a number of ways of increasing involvement of women in Southern Baptist life. "The WMU offers one of the best opportunities for involvement of women," said Gregory, who was SBC WMU president for six years.

"Women need to see that one of their gifts is that of affirmation. We could help a lot of pastors desiring to delegate responsibility in mission education. It's easy for me to see how WMU gets to be a woman's thing. A woman doesn't normally go to her husband to ask, 'Should I buy a pair of shoes for our child?' We just go to buy the shoes. So it is natural for a church WMU director to just take something and run with it. Perhaps, in the past there have been too many times when the WMU director has not been working closely enough with her pastor."

"On the other hand," Gregory said, "I don't think that women should be apologetic about the gifts God has given to us. I see too many women just copping out. I know what my gift is and

I don't mind telling anyone what it is. I really get perturbed when women begin to put themselves down. We are denying what God has given to us. If God created us, breathed into us the breath of life and then gave us gifts, we are to acknowledge these gifts and to use them."

Gregory feels women need to be really serious about using their God-given gifts, adding, "When we get serious about the gifts that God has given us, then perhaps other people will take us more seriously."

Gregory feels that one of the main problems for women graduating from seminaries is the fact that men feel insecure. She said, "There are two ways that we can make men feel more secure. First, we don't demand things. And second, we need to let men know that we want to work along beside them. We are not trying to take away their places of service."

Churches ought to be encouraged to take seriously the gifts that young women have, need to be encouraged to look at young women who are graduating from seminary for staff positions, Gregory added.

Gregory believes Baptist editors can do more than any other group to encourage churches to utilize the gifts of women. She said, "I believe that Baptist editors are some of the strongest opinion makers in Southern Baptist life. They need to speak out on churches using the gifts of women. I don't mean cooking the church supper. Women are willing to do this. But I am referring to using the gifts of women in relating to other people."

Of herself, Gregory said, "I never felt called to religious vocation, although, I served a church as a religi-

ous education director for one year and then later served on a part time basis for two years." After her marriage to A. Harrison Gregory, she started working in the church WMU, later in the association and then in the state. In 1975 she was elected as the SBC WMU president.

Gregory feels that the WMU is at one of its strongest points in history right now. She said, "The WMU has led the way in promoting the life-changing commitment."

She adds that in order to reach people we must sometimes change our own lifestyles. "You can't change people into your own image," Gregory said, "but you must start where they are. This often means changing your own lifestyle so that you can bring them to Jesus."

In commenting on her year as first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, Gregory said, "I have never worked harder in my life and I have missed the WMU expense account. One of the things I hope to get done as I go out of office is to get an expense account for the vice presidents." Gregory feels that one of the reasons vice presidents in the past have not had expense accounts is that most of them were pastors of churches and their churches which provided for these expenses.

Gregory is very complimentary of her husband. She said, "My husband has been a real affirmer during my years of president of the WMU and first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Without his help it would have been impossible for me to serve as I have."

(Sneed is editor of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.)

FABULOUS SUNDAYS

The month of May has been selected as the month of FIVE FABULOUS SUNDAYS, the Sunday School's major emphasis on enrolling new members.

This is the fourth year to emphasize the enrollment of new Sunday School members with the anticipation of enrolling a total of 10,000 new members in five Sundays across the state of Mississippi.

There are several procedures which a church could follow to enroll people almost instantaneously. These would involve the establishing of a Cradle Roll, a Homebound Department, a Fellowship Bible Class, or through the use of the Adult Start-A Class.

To maintain interest and know how many new church members have been enrolled each week, in each church, in each association, a tabulation plan has been suggested for use across the

state.

The Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department will call each associational director of missions or associational Sunday School director between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. by WATS line on Monday of each week during FIVE FABULOUS SUNDAYS in May to obtain this associational total.

The association will enlist one person to be responsible for a group of churches (10 or less) who will call the Sunday School directors in his group each Sunday afternoon during May to obtain the number of new persons enrolled on Sunday morning.

This information will be relayed to the associational office each Monday morning where it will be obtained by the state Sunday School Department and each week a state total will be carried in the Baptist Record.

Annie gifts up 25 percent over last year

ATLANTA, Ga. (BP)—Gifts to the 1982 Annie Armstrong Easter offering for home missions show a 25 percent increase over offerings received by this date last year, William G. Tanner, Home Mission Board president, told members of the board's executive committee during their April meeting.

The total of \$790,597.61 received thus far represents 3.59 percent of the \$22 million goal, Tanner reported. "Our goal is a healthy 19 percent increase over last year's goal, but this early report indicates to me that Southern Baptists are going to meet it."

The executive committee elected two persons to staff positions and appointed 62 others to mission service, including four missionaries, five missionary associates, and 53 persons to receive church and language pastoral aid.

Jerry L. Scruggs, associate director of the missionary personnel department, was named to fill the new position of director of human resources development effective May 1. Scruggs, a native of Fruitland, Tenn., was a board missionary in New York for seven years before joining the staff in 1974. He is a graduate of Union University and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and was pastor of churches in Tennessee, Missouri and New York.

Loretta D. Hays was appointed director of employment services, succeeding Kitty Roberson who has become director of marketing services. Hays, who joined the board as a secretary in the personnel division in 1981, is a native of Athens, Ga. She is a graduate of the University of Georgia and taught school in North Carolina for 13 years.

Among those slated to receive language pastoral assistance were Ray and Sue Brooks of Pascagoula, Miss.

As a rule, those hardest to please are of the least value in the church.

Mississippi Baptist Activities

- April 18 Cooperative Program Day; In all Churches (Stewardship Emphasis)
- April 19 Bible Drill State Finals; FBC, Batesville; 4:30 p.m. (CT)
- April 19 Adult 8.5 X '85 Growth Seminar; FBC, Columbus; 7-9 p.m. (SS)
- April 19-20 Secretaries' Conference; Baptist Building, Jackson; 12:30 p.m. 19h - 11:45 a.m., 20th (CAPM)
- April 19-23 Baptist Doctrine Study (CT Emphasis)
- April 20 Bible Drill State Finals; FBC, Greenville; 4:30 p.m. (CT)
- April 20 Adult 8.5 X '85 Growth Seminar; FBC, Vicksburg; 7-9 p.m. (SS)
- April 22 Bible Drill State Finals; FBC, Baldwin; 4:30 p.m. (CT)
- April 22 Adult 8.5 X '85 Growth Seminar; FBC, Pearl; 7-9 p.m. (SS)
- April 23 Bible Drill State Finals; FBC, West Point; 4:30 p.m. (CT)
- April 23 Young Musicians; Adjudication Session; Alta Woods BC, Jackson; 6:30-9 p.m. (CM)
- April 24 Young Musicians' Choral Festival; Mississippi College, Clinton; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (CM)

Relief responses pour in tornado-touched town

By Orville Scott

PARIS, Texas (BP)—A flood of Baptist response has poured into stricken Paris after a massive tornado left a three-mile-long path of destruction across this North Texas city April 2.

At least three Texas Baptists were killed, and two Texas Baptist churches were destroyed. Other Baptists were among the estimated 200 people injured and many lost their homes and businesses.

Among the eight fatalities of the storm were First Baptist Church members Mrs. Ora L. Spangler, 74, and Mrs. Martha Jo Landers, 52, and Mrs. Helen McQueen, 53, of Seventh Street Baptist Church.

Buildings of the Lakeway Baptist Church and the Belmont Baptist Church were demolished by the tornado. Belmont was leveled, and Lakeway was left with no roof and only parts of the walls, including the baptistry and a sign over a doorway reading, "God Loves You."

Sunday worship services were held as the Belmont congregation met in the office building of the Red River Baptist Association, and Lakeway Baptist secured a temporary building.

Local volunteers served with the crew of the Texas Baptist disaster relief mobile unit which arrived from Dallas about 9 a.m. Saturday and set up a field kitchen to feed storm victims and disaster workers. By late Saturday, a call went out for assistance and the Oklahoma Baptist disaster relief unit arrived Sunday to help with feeding.

James H. Landes, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, said: "The convention will

make the full range of our disaster relief assistance available as long as the emergency exists."

Richard Faling of the Texas Baptist Mission Support Section, chairman of the Family Life Task Force, said 57 tornado-stricken Baptist families were assisted with emergency funds in the immediate wake of the storm.

First Baptist Church was designated as an emergency child care center to assist disaster victims involved in digging out and applying for aid.

About 50 Baptist volunteers from areas such as Wichita Falls, Dallas, Fort Worth and Houston arrived Sunday to help clear the streets and remove debris.

One of the volunteers was Fred McDowell, director of missions for the Wichita-Archer-Clay Association, who came to Paris in a travel trailer to assist at the associational office. Two years ago, one of the most destructive tornadoes in history struck Wichita Falls. Then, Doyle Holmes, director of missions for Lubbock Association, went to Wichita Falls to assist McDowell for an extended time.

(Scott writes for the Baptist General Convention of Texas.)

Clarke College
ALUMNI
HOMECOMING
April 17

Mississippi Baptists plan Bold New Work concentration

By J. Ray Grissett
church extension consultant
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

In 1982-85 there will be as part of the Bold Mission Thrust, a special emphasis in Mississippi on starting new work. The ultimate goal of this area of emphasis is to reach people for Christ. I have been given the responsibility to head up the Bold New Work effort for the state of Mississippi and will draw on resources from the state convention board, the Home Mission Board, and the Sunday School Board in order to better serve the local association and church.

Since there are about one million unchurched in Mississippi, every Mississippi church is challenged to make a commitment to start new work. It is hoped that two hundred or more Mississippi churches will work jointly with sponsoring churches in an assisting role.

The sponsoring church would work directly with the people in an area where they need a mission or church or other ministries while the assisting church, though located in another part of the state, would support both finan-

cially and with personnel in a manner that would allow more new work to be begun than could be done by overwhelmed churches in areas where need is far greater than they can attempt or control.

When the local churches elect and utilize their church missions committees and key church leadership we will see a new day in our state in this matter of beginning new work.

The various outreach efforts could be such as community survey, people search, witness training, events, new Bible fellowships, new church-type missions, new classes, new departments, or new Sunday Schools. This by no means includes every outreach effort that is possible for the local church and/or association to accomplish.

If every church would consider conducting at least one project in unchurched areas with ethnics, blacks, deaf, or socio-economic and cultural lifestyle groups then we would come more near reaching the million-plus people in our state that are not churched at this time.

The church extension consultant will make available to local associations

demographic and data material which can be used in assisting their local churches in finding the people and helping reach them in ministry.

In order to assist in the accomplishment of the Bold New Work Mississippi projects in reaching people, we will be providing new work seminars and workshops, area approved workers, new work specialists, summer mission youth teams and church pastoral aid as well as other special efforts.

With the combined efforts of the Sunday School Department, WMU, Brotherhood, Evangelism, just to name a few, the new work efforts can and will be accomplished.

As we stress reaching people, developing believers and strengthening families we are doing this for the association, for the church, and for the members. Those interested in the above material and other related matters connected with the Bold Mission Thrust in reaching people especially through new work projects, may contact J. Ray Grissett with the Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

Christian home week is coming May 2-9

By Paul G. Jones, II
Executive director-elect
Christian Action Commission

Christian Home Week will be observed by Southern Baptist churches May 2-9. This is a yearly emphasis throughout the Convention; it also initiates the first of the three family emphases of Bold Mission Thrust.

For 1982-83, the Bold Mission Thrust is "Strengthening the Family: Opening the Word Together." The emphasis is on family worship and Bible study in the home. It is hoped that most of the churches will use this as an opportunity to give additional stress to the role of biblical instruction and the family altar in the home.

A brochure has been prepared which indicates the "Twelve Steps To Family Worship and Bible Study In Your Home" and is available while supplies last from the Christian Action Commission, Box 330, Jackson, MS 39205, or from the Family Ministry Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, 127 Ninth Ave. N., Nashville, TN 37234. This brochure outlines 12 steps that can be used to encourage church members and Christian family leaders to develop a more detailed and serious approach to family worship and Bible study.

Churches are also taking advantage of the new book, *The Biblical View of*

the Family, by William M. Pinson, Jr., president, Golden Gate Seminary, which emphasizes the key role of the family in God's creation. This book deals with why God created the family and what he wanted the family to be. It is suggested that a church consider having a four-day family life revival using the substance of this book as material to be taught to various age groups in the church.

Finally, as a part of Christian Home Week 1982, there is a listing of resources such as books and tracts available from the Christian Action Commission. This material, along with a determination to emphasize Christian Home Week, May 2-9, 1982, can bring a major boost to a church's ministry to families. Many churches have reaped the benefits of families who have become more committed to God's Word.

Christian Home Week is the opportunity for the churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention to affirm again the role of the home in the development of Christian children. Indeed, families need to be opening the Word together and Christian Home Week is an appropriate time to give emphasis to this in your church. Additional information and resources may be received from the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.



W. Ellisville appreciates nurses

WEST ELLISVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH, ELLISVILLE, recently sponsored Nurse Appreciation Week. There are approximately 23 nurses in the church family. In the above photo, the accumulated time of service was 197 years. Left to right, front row: Delores Dillen—24 years; Mary Pittman—10 years; Candace Simons—17 years; Pearl Johnson—20 years; Sandra Shuttlesworth—5 years; Willie Mae Smith—27 years. Back row: Rosalie Powell—18 years; Hazel Cook—18 years; Elizabeth Robinson—28 years; Marguerite Dixon—9 years; and Frances Temple—21 years. Tom McCurley is pastor. D. D. Ellzey is minister of youth and activities.

Simmons announces plans: Gulfshore staff reunion

Frank Simmons, Gulfshore manager, announces plans for a staff reunion to be held at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, May 14-15, 1982. All summer staffers who served at the assembly from 1962-1969 and 1978-1981 are invited to the assembly for this event. The main emphasis of the weekend will be a banquet style meal at noon on Saturday, May 16.

Accommodations will be available at Gulfshore for this event. An attempt is being made to notify as many of the staffers as possible. Those interested persons should contact Simmons at Gulfshore for additional information.

Those who have photos, slides, or other memorabilia related to the Gulfshore experience are encouraged to bring them along to share with the group.

Registration begins at 6 p.m. Friday and the program continues Saturday morning with a complimentary continental breakfast and concludes at 1:30 Saturday afternoon after the noon meal.

Music group recognizes six

During the recent annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Church Music Conference, six persons were elected for special recognition as honorary members of the Conference, according to J. M. Wood, newly-elected president.

The six are John and Kathy McNair, missionaries to Uruguay; Major and June McDaniel, missionaries to Korea; Kenneth Forbus, minister of music at First Church, Greenville; and Helen McWhorter, of William Carey College.

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Smith, Solomon are injured in wreck

D. P. Smith and Marti Solomon were injured in a wreck on Highway 49 north of Gulfport Saturday evening, according to Marjean Patterson, Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union director. They had been leading a Youth Mission Conference at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian.

Smith, Mississippi Acteens consultant, and Solomon, national Acteens consultant, were traveling in the Mississippi Baptist Building van on Highway 49 near Lyman, when struck from the side by a pickup truck. They were taken to Memorial Hospital in Gulfport.

Smith suffered a cracked pelvis and a broken sacrum. She was transferred to Doctor's Hospital in Jackson. Solomon suffered five broken ribs and a broken arm. She was to be taken to Vicksburg where her parents live.

Panama City, Panama (EP)—Nineteen foreign missionaries for Jehovah's Witnesses who were arrested and expelled from Nicaragua arrived in Panama and Costa Rica and said March 21 that they had not been mistreated.

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3
Thursday, April 15, 1982

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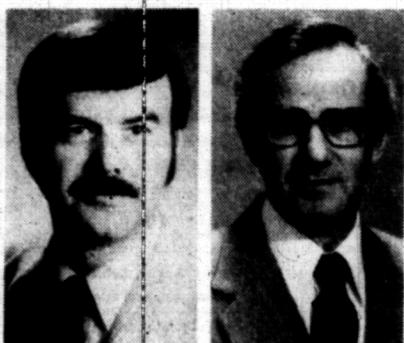
Two creative worship workshops are planned

Creative worship conferences are scheduled on May 17 at Meadowview Baptist Church, Starkville, and on May 18 at Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Jackson. Each will begin at 9 a.m. and adjourn at 4 p.m.

Program leaders will include James Barry, consultant, Church Administration department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.; Graham Smith, associate pastor, Morrison Heights Baptist Church, Clinton; and Leon Emery, director, Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Jackson.

Barry, a native of Kentucky, is a graduate of Western Kentucky University and Southern Seminary. He held pastorates for 10 years in Kentucky and Virginia before joining the board in 1954. Preaching and congregational worship are the two areas of primary responsibility in his work. He has compiled several books on preaching, and on worship services. Before going to the church administration department he was editor and consultant in the Sunday School department for 16 years.

Smith, native of Gulfport, Miss., is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary, with a master of church music degree from the latter. Before going to Morrison Heights, he was minister of music at Temple Church, Hattiesburg, and at other churches in Mississippi and Texas. He has served as a member of the Missis-



Smith

Barry

issippi Baptist Convention Board and of its executive committee. From 1971 to 1976 he was charter president of Mississippi Singing Churchmen. In Hattiesburg he was a member of the Civic Light Opera Company.

Topics for the creative worship conferences will include congregational worship for growing churches, the pastor's responsibility in worship planning, the worship team, and the order of worship, involving youth and children in worship, leading worship to be evangelistic, making the most of baptism and the Lord's Supper, ways to evaluate worship, and creative worship experience.

The conferences are being sponsored by the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

A Dutch lunch will be served on May 17 and 18, at noon, Emery said, so conference participants need not send for reservations.

Attention: senior adults!



Keith Anglin

Jim Keith of Gulfport and Gary Anglin of Jackson are two of seventeen program leaders for Senior Adult Retreat I, May 17-21, at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly.

Keith is pastor of First Church, Gulfport, while Anglin serves as minister of music at Alta Woods Church, Jackson. Anglin will lead the music team for the retreat. Keith will

be one of four Bible teacher/worship leaders.

The Bible study to be taught by Keith is "What Every Christian Needs to Know About Prayer," a specialized study of the book of James.

Other Bible teachers during Retreat I are Joe Tuten, Calvary, Jackson; Joe McKeever, First, Columbus; and Beverly Tinnin, First, Meridian.

A second retreat will be held the following week, May 24-28 following the same program format but with different program personalities except for the program coordinators, Ethel McKeithen, Paul Harrell, and Kermit S. King all from departments of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Two-three-day conclaves are projected for Gulfshore August 16-18 and August 19-21 offering a different program format.

Aid sent in volcano's wake

VILLAHERMOSA, Mexico (BP)—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board released \$10,000 in hunger relief funds April 5 to aid Mexicans displaced from their homes by continuing eruptions of El Chiconal volcano in

southeastern Mexico.

Harvey Walworth, Southern Baptist missionary who lives just 50 miles away in Villahermosa, said eruptions over the weekend brought an influx of refugees to that city Sunday evening April 4.

About 200 were housed in God Is Love Baptist Church in Villahermosa, he said.

News accounts indicate nearly 40,000 Mexicans have been left homeless as the volcano has spewed rocks, sand and ash. At least 21 persons were killed and about 500 other injured.

Another eruption was anticipated.

Alcorn calls missions director

Nat Mayhall took up the position as Director of Missions for Alcorn Baptist Association, on April 1.

Mayhall has been associate pastor and education director at First Baptist Church, Corinth, since 1975. Previously he had served pastorates at Ellistown Church Blue Springs; Port Gibson Church; Beulah Church, Polkville; and Ludlow Church; and a mission pastorate at Irvine Baptist Church, Irvine, Ky.

He is a graduate of Delta State College, Cleveland, and Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Ky. He and his wife Dorothy live at 1405 East Clover Lane, Corinth.

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Ruth Rich, a school teacher from Dallas, Texas, is a writer for *Music Makers*. Like most writers for Sunday School Board periodicals, Ruth is not a Board employee. She writes from her experience as director of a children's choir in the East Grand Baptist Church. Ruth is typical of the hundreds of Sunday School Board writers who are committed to the ministry of the local church—your church and theirs.

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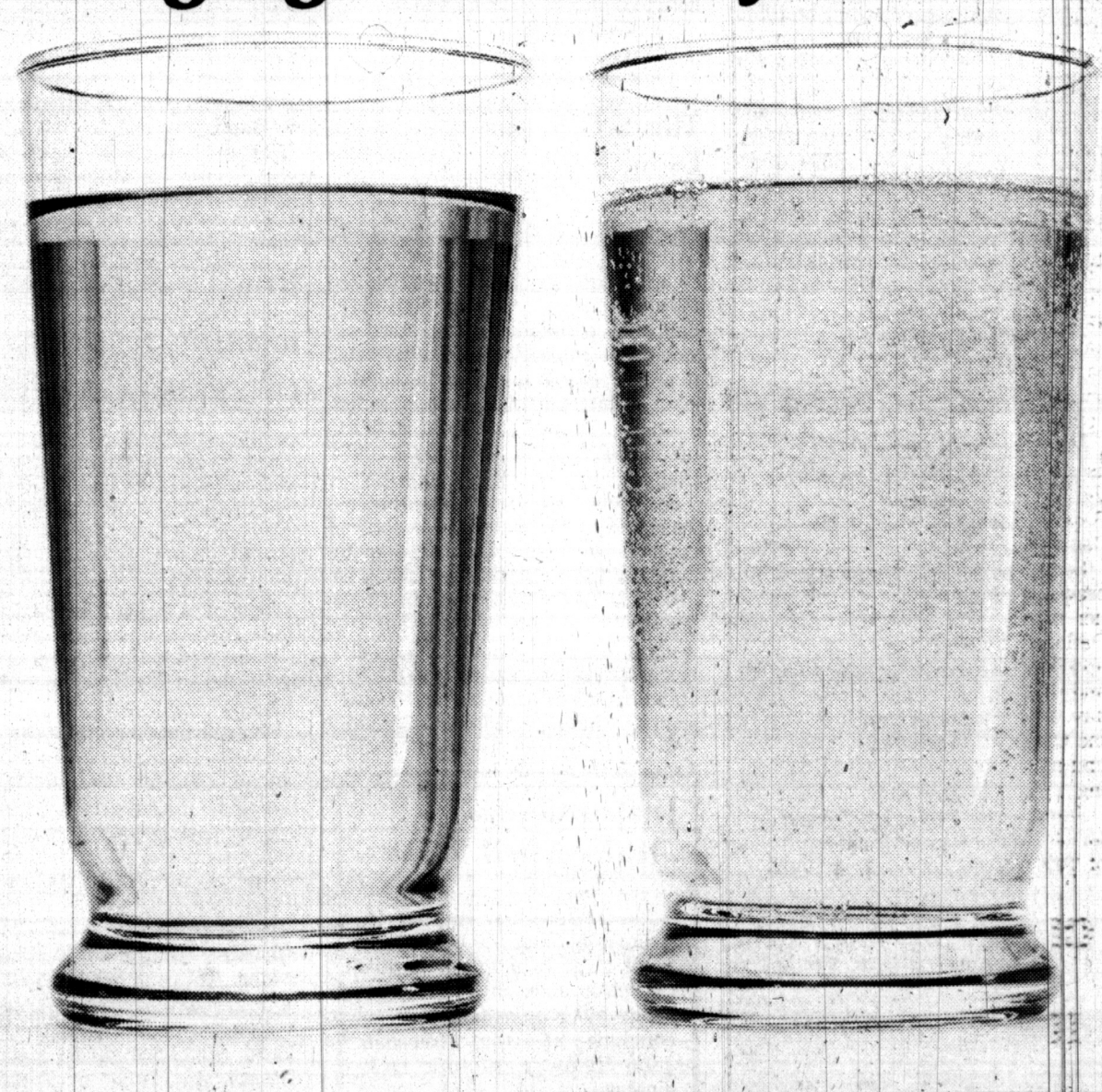
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Editorials . . .

Cooperative Program is witnessing

Sunday is Cooperative Program Day in the churches, and there could not be a more important observation. Among Southern Baptists Cooperative Program is spelled m-i-s-s-i-o-n-s.

And how does one explain missions? One word does it—witnessing.

After Luke got through explaining to Theophilus that he had written previous material about what Jesus had done and taught, he told of the Lord's last moments of visible life among men. In Acts 1:8 Jesus is recorded as telling his disciples, "... ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

There seems little reason to be in doubt about what he meant. He intends for us to be witnesses all over the world. There is only one way that most of us ordinary people can do that, and we go back to the beginning—Cooperative Program.

There are many people who are willing to go in person and can do it. Not many can afford to support themselves while they are serving in missions capacities, however. There are

many more of us who can't go for some reason, who are needed in some other capacity at home, or who don't want to go. But we can serve, nevertheless, by financing the sustenance, expenses, and material for those who do go. That is the heart and soul of the Cooperative Program.

It is true that we finance much more than the endeavors of our two missions agencies through the Cooperative Program. Just about all of the work that is financed through the Cooperative Program, however, is thought to be at least missions supportive to some degree. And if some area of work cannot be defended on a missions support basis, it is effort that most Southern Baptists have felt to be necessary; and that brings us to the reason for the origination of the Cooperative Program. It was to make it unnecessary for all of the agencies supported by Southern Baptists to have to send representatives into churches to seek to raise funds. The better representatives got the most funds.

The earlier Southern Baptists, about 57 years ago, decided that if we were

going to claim an agency we were going to support it. Through the years the agencies have discovered that they need more support than the people are willing to give through the churches, so they have just about all hired representatives anyway. But they don't go into the churches with requests for funds. The churches that send their missions funds through the Cooperative Program support all of the Southern Baptist agencies—with most of the support going to the two mission boards.

During the last reporting period, there were 129 Southern Baptist churches that gave \$100,000 or more through the Cooperative Program. Among these 129 churches Mississippi had two in the top six in percentage giving. They were First Baptist Church, Grenada, with 25.2 percent, which was third, and First Baptist Church, Yazoo City, which was sixth with 23.3 percent. This was only .1 percent behind the fifth place church.

These churches and many more in Mississippi are continuing to teach the importance of Cooperative Program

giving. It is easy for the older generations to suppose that everyone knows about the Cooperative Program. This is not the case, however. As new generations come along they must be taught as if they don't know anything about it. If someone doesn't teach them, they won't know.

The 48th Psalm exhorts its readers to "Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof. Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces; that ye may tell it to the generation following."

This applies in our day to the Cooperative Program, and for the same reason as then. The psalmist says, "For this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even unto death."

He is a God worth serving, and our primary service is witnessing. We extend our witness through the Cooperative Program.

Cooperative Program Day Sunday will be a proper time to renew commitments to witnessing through missions endeavors financed through the Cooperative Program.

Haywood N. Stubble



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Jeyakaran and Jemima

Sundays since last fall a young man and his wife from India have been sitting near the front in our church services. Always she is dressed in an exquisite sari. One night he spoke at prayer meeting. Recently I heard they have a new baby. "I'd like to know them," I thought, so last week I went to Apartment A-1 at Reformed Presbyterian Seminary on Clinton Boulevard to see Jeyakaran and Jemima Thomas and two-month-old Dori.

At the seminary he is seeking a Master of Divinity degree, and is studying Greek and Hebrew, and she is seeking a Master of Christian education degree; they expect to stay in the U.S. at least two more years.

Their home is in Tiruchi, Tamilnadu, on the southern tip of India. "It's something like Florida, in climate," said Jemima. Many fruit trees grow there, such as mangos and coconuts.

"Dating is not popular in India," he pointed out. Their parents, who are friends, arranged their marriage almost six years ago (he grew up in Srivilliputtur). His parents taught in a mission school. Her father is a tax official.

They are members of the Church of South India. "There is no Baptist church in our city," he said. "Our beliefs, however, are near that of Baptists. We visited several churches here, but liked Morrison Heights best." In their church, he said, they have an option concerning infant baptism or baptism at the time the person accepts Christ, or both. "We decided not to christen our baby." He became a Christian at age 14 and she at age 16.

William Carey has been one of his missionary heroes. "He was not obliged to go to India, but he chose to go there. When his printing press was burned, he did not give up, but said, 'Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God.'" He added, "My wife's cousin's husband is a former pastor of the Carey Baptist Church in Calcutta."

For ten years he taught math at Bishop Heber College, Tiruchi, after earning a master's degree from American College, Madurai. "But I had felt God was calling me to special service, even before I entered college," he said. Then after he got a scholarship at Reformed Seminary, he and Jemima came to the U.S. last summer. She got a degree from Holy Cross College and did further graduate study.

"We want to serve as missionaries or maybe as Bible teachers." He plans to return to his teaching as a means of support, until he finds the specific place where God wants them. Their church has no mission board, so they will need to provide their own support. He said he had thought of working with some group that translates or distributes Scriptures, such as Wycliff Bible Translators, but does not know yet



The motto, in Tamil, on the wall behind Jemima, Dori, and Jeyakaran Thomas is from Psalm 23:4 — "Thou, O Lord, art with me."

what it will be. He enjoys the study of languages. He is a Gideon, and she is a member of Gideon's Auxiliary.

Both have dreams of helping other people in India, with both spiritual and physical needs; of promoting wider Bible study; and of finding a way to disperse cheaper Bibles and Christian literature in their land.

"Bibles in India cost at least \$10. With a master's degree and at the top of the teaching profession, I only made \$110 a month. It would take three days of my pay there to buy one Bible." (Millions of others make less than that.) "If only that price could be cut to \$2..." he said with longing. "If only some way could be found to supplement publishers' costs so that could be done..."

While in this country he would like to serve by speaking in churches or to other groups. Already he has done that to some extent, but would like to increase that ministry. (His phone number is 922-6573.) Also he plays the violin and both play the guitar.

I asked what they like to do for fun and he answered, "Study the Bible. We like to study individually, each taking a chapter and writing notes on its meaning."

Also they enjoy tennis, coin collecting, and listening to radio and TV news. He has no car, but has learned to drive. "I like the way Mississippians say, 'Hi,'" he emphasized.

Difficulties here? (1) "The humidity! (2) The financial difficulties. Here \$100 a month won't go as far as in India. Rent in India was \$15 a month. Here it is \$200. With a full scholarship and student visa, he is not allowed to accept a job. Her scholarship is only a partial one. After they pay the rent, they have \$100 a month for all the rest of the bills, including food."

I felt the warmth of their friendly hospitality. I hope you feel as welcome in Mississippi as I felt in your house, Jemima and Jeyakaran!

Guest opinion . . .

Are you a shining example?

By Beth Chenault Saltillo

As a teacher and parent I feel it is of utmost importance of being a Christian teacher or parent to guide the lives of our little ones. I teach in our school system today seeing children whose parents are divorced, or children who are mistreated. It is a terrible sight. We as parents and teachers are supposed to be the leaders.

Everyone gives the opinion that "things are different now than they used to be." "Times have changed." Sure, times have changed, but people who love God haven't changed. Our society is falling down, divorce rates are sky-high. People do not see a need for Christ in their lives or their homes. They would rather be free and live together, and children observe adults living this way. Sounds as if the blind are leading the blind.

My main concern is that as parents or teachers we must be an example of what Christ has told us to do. We follow through in our own lives with the high

ideals and values that Christ establishes for us many times in the Bible?

I sincerely feel that for me, as a parent as well as a teacher, I must be an example for others to follow, especially the children with whom I come in contact daily.

Teaching is more than 7 x 4 equals 28 or in 1492 Columbus discovered America. Teaching is not only recounting facts from our textbooks, but it is also showing respect, morals, dignity, pride, sincerity, caring, and love and showing this love every minute of every day whether it be at school with the children or at home with my own children.

Being a parent is tough; but with Christ as the head of the household, who can lose? Parenting is more than washing clothes, taking the kids to swimming, or going to a Country Club dinner. It is a day-in, day-out job that I must face daily with Christ as my guide.

There are nine things I truly believe that will help us become better pa-

rents:

(1) Remember a child is a true gift of God, the richest of all blessings. Each child is an individual and should be permitted to be himself. Don't ever crush a child's spirit—never compare him with anyone else.

(2) Mom and Dad should be united with Christ as the leaders. Show affection and love in your home.

(3) Discipline your child with firmness and reason. Don't let your anger throw you off balance. Make sure the punishment fits the action. A child has a keen sense of justice.

(4) Do not hand your child everything his heart desires. Permit him to know the thrill of earning and a joy of deserving. Grant the grandest of all. Satisfaction is the pleasure that comes with personal achievement.

(5) Don't be ashamed to let him know that Mom and Dad fail in things too. But with God we can try, try again.

(6) Don't ever threaten or promise things you can't live up to. To a child, a parent's word means everything. A

child who loses faith in Mom and Dad has difficulty in believing in anything.

(7) Do not smother your child with superficial manifestations of love. Instead show your love in day-in and day-out training which breeds self confidence and independence.

(8) Teach a child there is dignity in hard work. A useful life is a blessed one, and a life of ease and pleasure-seeking is very empty and meaningless.

(9) The most important of all—teach your child to love God and his fellow man. Don't send your child to a place of worship. Take him there yourself. A child learns from example. Telling him is not teaching him. If you give your child a deep and abiding faith in God it will be his strength of light when all else fails. Be that shining example for your richest blessing of all—a child. It is the most rewarding gift of all.

Beth Chenault is a teacher in Lee County School System, and a parent of two preschool children.

Letters To The Editor

Not add nor take away

Editor:

"The Bible and Wine" letter references are an unbalanced picture of God's Holy Word. "Everything has a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." Eccl. 3:1 And what to do with the first miracle of Jesus in John 2:9? The changing of water into wine... Jesus a winemaker!... God forbid! I have heard devoted men of God, stand and preach, "It wasn't really wine, but grape juice." How sad when we change God's Word for what we believe. (Is. 44:25, 1 Cor. 1:20).

Palestine sits on the same latitude as South Mississippi and its seasons are near to ours here. There are no grapes in the spring—i.e. vs. 13 Ch. 2 of John. And what about Paul's infamous, "... but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities." I Tim. 5:23, not forgetting Paul's charge "And be not drunk with wine wherein is excess, but be filled with the Spirit." Eph. 5:18.

Let me say in Christian love I do not send this because I want alcoholic beverages of any kind advertised. I just want to remind all followers of the Lord Jesus Christ to remember God's Word is Holy and we should not add to or take away from it or its meaning for any reason. "Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth." John 17:17.

Respectfully,
Mrs. E. L. James
Picaune

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Need in Montana

Editor:

Billy Ferguson, pastor of East Helena Baptist Mission, Helena, Montana, visited in Mississippi Wednesday — Saturday, March 31 — April 3, on a mission tour for the Mission, Simpson Baptist Association served as host for Rev. Ferguson's visit.

Rev. Ferguson had the privilege of speaking on several occasions in behalf of the mission. The Mission Team from Simpson Baptist Association had the privilege of working with the mission in June, 1981. At that time there were only 6 members. At present the Mission has 21 members with a Sunday School enrollment of 35.

It is necessary that the mission build a building by August, 1982, as the Montana Building Code will not permit them to meet in the trailer after that time. The object of the mission trip by Rev. Ferguson was to secure financial help to build the church building.

H. Glen Schilling
Director of missions
Simpson Association

This S.O.S. may be for you

Editor:

In a recent Sunday night service in Granada, Spain, a 20-voice youth choir sang for the first time as a group. A Moroccan, a Panamanian, an American, and a Spaniard were standing side by side as they lifted their voices in praise to God. It is plain to see that such an international group is united by commitment to Christ and by membership in the Granada Baptist Church.

Southern Baptist missionaries Robert F. Crider and his wife, Barbara, have been giving their full time to build up the local church, and have also sought to minister to some 35,000 university students in Granada. The work in Granada has not been easy and has grown slowly. Recently some outstanding breakthroughs have come, such as winning a Moroccan student. The very fact of having 20 young

Instrumental clinic April 17

The Mississippi Baptist Instrumental Clinic is this weekend, April 17 at Broadmoor Baptist Church in Jackson. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the program concludes at 4 that afternoon. John Hanbery is clinic coordinator.

people to sing in the choir is itself a major victory.

The Criders are due for furlough in the summer of 1982. As they approach their furlough, no other missionary is on the horizon to continue the work and give it continuity. This has been a matter of prayer and study by the Baptist Mission in Spain, and for varied reasons a number of possible solutions have failed.

A volunteer from the States would meet this need and enjoy a fruitful ministry in Spain during the months of October, 1982, through May, 1983. The Criders sang with great feeling. "If you feel God's leadership in this direction, contact the Foreign Mission Board immediately."

Indy Whitten, missionary
Apartado 341
Santa Cruz de La Palma (Tfe.)
Canary Islands, Spain

Ministry of service

Editor:

I read with great interest and appreciation the article about dear Dr. John Barnes by Anne Washburn McWilliams in the March 18 issue of our Baptist Record.

Not only did John Barnes "major in titling," he also majored in helping the "little guy." I still remember the

day, many years ago, when I first recognized this virtue in this great man of God.

I was a student at William Carey College while serving as pastor of the tiny Leaf Baptist Church in Greene County. A godly deacon, D. W. (Stuck) Daughdrill, and I felt that Dr. Barnes was the man God wanted us to have for our revival at Leaf.

To make a long story short, I approached Dr. Barnes at Main Street concerning the revival. I was welcomed as cordially as if I had been the pastor of First Church, Dallas. My plea was heard with warmth and understanding, and Dr. Barnes drove to Leaf from Hattiesburg each night of that revival effort to share of himself with us. I'm sure that his love offering scarcely covered his gas expense, but what a blessing he was to the congregation of the Leaf Baptist Church.

I have been away from Leaf for many years now, but I'm certain that the influence of John Barnes will live on there until eternity, just as it will in this writer's heart. God bless Dr. John Barnes, and may he in his mercy raise up others like him among us!

James V. Miller
Minister of Music
East Moss Point Baptist Church
Moss Point

Rural evangelism meeting features Criswell in Ark.

ATLANTA—A National Conference on Rural Evangelism designed to encourage pastors and leaders of rural churches will be held at Lifeline Baptist Church in Little Rock, Ark., May 10-12.

Sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, the conference will also seek to help rural churches in developing effective evangelism programs.

Program personalities include W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.; Jack B. Johnson, executive director-treasurer, Arizona Southern Baptist Convention; and Kenneth Carter, director of the HMB associational evangelism department.

Registration begins Monday at 2 p.m., with the first session beginning at 7 p.m. The conference closes at noon on Wednesday. For more information, contact Carter, at the Home Mission Board, SBC, 1350 Spring Street NW, Atlanta, Ga., 30367, or phone (404) 873-4041.

YOU CAN MANAGE YOUR LIFE by Don Mallough (Baker, paper, 123 pp., \$3.95). "It is never too late to plan your life, to sharpen your mental faculties, to upgrade your caliber of living, to attain new heights, to plunge into new adventures, to make a fresh start." Beginning with these words, the author offers ideas that will revitalize and reorganize an unproductive or inefficient life. But he emphasizes that the "managing" is up to the individual. His chapter titles cover such subjects as The Case for Self-Discipline, Decisions and Priorities, Mastering Our Moods, Be a Letter Writer, Time for Sale, How to Remember, and Your Life Story. It is easy and interesting reading and spurs the reader to feel like he or she can follow those suggestions for a richer life.—AWM

HEARTSONGS, A Mother's Book of Memories by Lini R. Grol (Baker, hard cover). In this lovely little book, Lini Grol celebrated with verses the intuition, sensitivity, and wisdom of mothers. With her scissor-cutting art, she illustrated each verse. Mothers of all ages would be likely to like the re-

sult, so this would make a good gift book for Mothers' Day. The author, a retired nurse, is a native of the Netherlands who has lived in Canada many years. She learned how to do scissor cutting from one of her patients, and then continued to perfect her skill.—AWM

HOW TO HELP YOURSELF by Robert J. Hastings (Broadman, \$3.25, 124 pp.). Hastings, editor of the Illinois Baptist and director of communications for the Illinois Baptist State Association, is author of many books and articles. He writes from his personal experiences, in a style that makes it easy for the reader to identify with him—makes his reader laugh, cry, get mad or excited along with them. His colorful chapter titles speak for themselves: When You Wonder Whom to Trust, When Your Body Lets You Down, When Today Has Lost Its Fizz, When Your Halo Starts to Fade, When You're Tired of Being Phony, When a Wedding Isn't Enough, When the Ice Melts Too Fast, When the Dollars Won't Stretch, and When You Want to Be Sure. And every chapter is filled with advice, and anecdotes (about

someone who did—or didn't—follow that advice) on "how to help yourself by letting Him help you." Recommended reading.—AWM

Scholarships are available at Miss. College

Four scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each are available to high school graduates or junior college transfers contemplating attending Mississippi College and studying in the department of religion according to Jack Glaze, department chairman.

Students applying for the scholarships will be interviewed personally. Written applications must be submitted two months prior to the student entering school.

Persons desiring additional information concerning the scholarships should contact Glaze in the Department of Religion at Mississippi College, phone 924-5131, Ext. 218.

Just for the Record



Phalti Baptist Church, Jeff Davis Association, recently held an Acteen and Girls-In-Action Recognition Service. Acteens honored were June Polk and Tammy Robertson. Girls In-Action honored were Tera Butler, Jennifer Langley, and Stephanie Robertson. The girls were assisted by Leslee Wade, Beth McQueen, Kristy Halbert, Owen Lott, Allen Robertson, Bernard and Ferris Thompson. Mrs. J. P. Parish represented the Baptist Women; Debbie Rodgers is the GA leader; and Sonja Robertson leads the Acteens. Jim Roberson is the pastor.



GAs and RAs of MOUNTAIN CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH, Florence, had a sweetheart banquet recently. Suzanne Johnson was crowned queen and Tony Haffey was crowned king. Front row, left to right: Nicole Bethany, Suzanne Johnson, Melissa Buffington, Kelly Richardson, Christy Richardson, and Rena Dear. Back row: Robert Delaughter, Brian Delaughter, Mark Dear, Tony Haffey, Timmy Wilson, and Anthony Bethany. Their leaders are P. Bethany, S. Dear, and Wayne McBride.



CORINTH BAPTIST CHURCH, JASPER COUNTY, has begun construction of a new sanctuary, plus added classroom space. A new choir loft will seat 40. The church has outgrown its present seating capacity. The building is expected to be complete by June, 1982.

Revival Dates

Harrisburg Church, Tupelo: April 18-22; noon services Mon.-Wed.; evening services 7:30 Mon.-Thurs.; Larry W. Fields, pastor, evangelist; Russell Newport, soloist; youth night special guests, Al Fike and Bruce Fields.

Sandersville Church (Jones): April 18-23; Dale Patterson, pastor, East Brent Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla., and former pastor of Roseland Park Church, Picayune, evangelist; music under direction of Perry Robinson, minister of music, First, Ellisville; Bruce Jolly, pastor.

Gulfport Heights Baptist Church, Gulfport: April 18-23; Johnny Walker, pastor, First, Lucedale, evangelist; Bobby McClellan, music evangelist; Robert Cooper, Jr., pastor; at 11 a.m. Sunday and 7 nightly.

Calvary Church, Columbus: April 16-18; services Fri. and Sat. at 7 p.m.; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Clarke College revival team—William Hill, Tuscaloosa, Ala., preacher; Endle Lee, Mobile, Ala., music leader; Billy Crowe, Jackson, youth director; Jackie Sissons, Birmingham, Ala., asst. youth director; Sandra Bulmer, Poplarville, pianist; Mike Carroll, youth minister at Calvary.

Beulah Church, Myrtle: April 18-23; Bob Porter, evangelist, Roanoke, Va.; Sammy Hood, music director; Tommy Snyder, pastor.

Rocky Point (Leake): April 14-18; services at 7 p.m.; Danny Lafferty, visiting evangelist; Rick Carter, music director at First, Carthage, leading music; David Wilkinson, pastor.

Union Baptist Church, Hintonville community, Beaumont: youth revival; April 22, 23, 24; at 7 p.m.; Beaver Charpie, evangelist; Alton Fagan, pastor.

New Prospect to offer doctrine study

New Prospect Baptist Church, Lincoln County, will have Baptist Doctrine Study April 18-21. R. F. Hallford of Deland, Fla., will lead the study. Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., and Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.-9 p.m. A nursery will be provided.

Bay Vista Church, Biloxi: April 18-21; Clyde Little, pastor, evangelist; R. L. and Beth Sigrest, Yazoo City, music evangelists; services at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday night, and 7 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; noonday services and lunches Mon.-Wed.

Kemps Chapel Church (Alcorn): April 11-14; Horace Thomas, guest preacher; Charles Stephenson, pastor.

Union Church, Corinth: April 18-23; youth revival; Phil Hardwick, pastor; of Kossuth Baptist, evangelist; W. E. Mason, pastor.

Calvary Church, Corinth: April 19-26; Jerry Glisson, pastor, Leawood Church, evangelist; Wayne Marshall, pastor.

Trinity Baptist Church, Vicksburg: April 18-23; Stanley B. Barnett, evangelist; Paul Harper, singer; Howard D. Smith, pastor; Sunday at 10:40 a.m. and 7:10 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m.

Louin Church (Jasper): April 16-18; W. P. Miley, pastor, evangelist; Bob Chafin, Bay Springs, music director; Ray Pugh, music director; services Friday and Saturday nights at 7; regular services Sunday.

Evansville Church, Coldwater: April 16-18; youth revival; Fri. and Sat. at 7 p.m.; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; David Campbell, Coldwater, evangelist; Thomas Foy, Southaven, music director; KaRhonda Baker, Askeew, pianist; Ed Campbell, pastor.

Antioch Church (Alcorn): April 25-30; Glenn Puttman of Kentwood, LA, evangelist; Michael Johnson, pastor.

Tabernacle church asks to join Rankin Association

Tabernacle Baptist Church, 1859 Old Brandon Road, Pearl, in a special business meeting March 28, voted to become a part of the Southern Baptist Convention. The congregation has asked to be instated in the Rankin County Baptist Association. Donald Tharp is the pastor. Marlon Seaneey is minister of music.

Liberty Church, Winston County, is holding services in a double wide trailer provided by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Its building burned recently.



GOOD HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH near Louisville held an Old-Fashioned Day March 21. "This was to bring to light that it is the spirit in which we come to worship God that really matters, and not the manner in which we are dressed," said the pastor, Phil Gillis (pictured at center). Selected as "dressed the most original" were Tatum Moody, left, and Mrs. Polle Fox, right.

Names in the News



JAMES K. BURKE, pastor of Straight Bayou Baptist Church, Sharkey County, recently presented a certificate of recognition to OSCAR H. STEEN, who has been elected as life deacon. Steen, right, has also served as Sunday School director at the church for many years.



JAMES WATTS, right, pastor of Springfield Church, Scott County, recently presented to Cliff Miles, left, a plaque from the church, naming him deacon emeritus and expressing appreciation for "outstanding and dedicated service." Miles was ordained in 1935 by Zion Baptist Church, Smith County, Hollis Benton, presiding. He said he gives credit to his wife, the former Hattie Mae Arinder, for being his inspiration over the years.

William E. Troutt, 32, a Tennessean, has been elected president of Belmont College. He will become the college's chief executive officer June 1, succeeding Herbert C. Gabhart, president since 1959, who will become chancellor, a post created for him in December. Troutt is the third president in the 31-year history of Belmont, a four-year, liberal arts college, owned and operated by the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Charles M. Hargett led a conference on the book of Daniel at the Bowman Avenue Baptist Church, Vicksburg, March 21-24. Hargett is a civil engineer who was ordained into the gospel ministry in 1978. He is presently serving as interim pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church in Vicksburg, but recently surrendered to full-time evangelism and Bible teaching. Attendance at the conference was extraordinary and continued to increase nightly," said the pastor, Harold Jordan. Hargett utilized 35 mm slides and charts to express the scriptures and events described.

Byron Smith has been elected president of the newly organized Baptist Student Union Alumni Association of Jones County Junior College. Twenty-five were present for the organizational meeting March 20, followed by a covered dish lunch. Serving with Smith will be Freda McCarty and Dianna Parker, secretary-treasurer, and Debbie Chisolm, social chairman.

Danny Wayne Bullock, of Dumas, Miss., has been awarded the Frazer Scholarship for the 1981-82 year at Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C. He is a third year student in the seminary, and is studying for the master of divinity degree.

Even Adam and Eve had their problems. One day Adam got angry. "You've done it again, Eve," said Adam. "You put my shirt in the salad again."

Fairview women pay for church in Honduras

The Fidelis Sunday School class of Fairview Baptist Church, Columbus, adopted a project to build a church in Puerto Limpira, Honduras.

This was an "over and above" project for the class, as their home church is in a building program, and also they continue to support the Cooperative Program and special home and foreign mission offerings.

However, some class members who were interested in a special project contacted Global Outreach at Tupelo. When they received plans and approximate cost of the church in Honduras they prayed and then felt led toward making the building a reality.

They gave more than the church building was expected to cost and then sent additional money to be applied toward the pews.

Afterward they encouraged men of their church to go with a work group to Honduras in February to help build the church they had paid for.

Hepzibah plans "1900 day"

Hepzibah Baptist Church, Silver Creek, Lawrence County, will celebrate "1900 Day" on May 2. The morning worship service will begin at 10 o'clock and will be followed by dinner on the grounds.

The afternoon service will begin with a "1900 Conference" and history books of the church will be on display.

Transportation will be provided from the cemetery to the church by horse and buggy. Those who attend are being encouraged to wear "1900" clothes if they choose to do so.

Amish must pay tax

WASHINGTON (BP)—The U.S. Supreme Court reversed a Pennsylvania District Court ruling which had relieved employers and employees who are members of the Old Order Amish religion from participation in the nation's Social Security system.

"The tax system could not function if denominations were allowed to challenge the tax system because tax payments were spent in a manner that violates their religious beliefs," the justices declared.

"Because the broad public interest in maintaining a sound tax system is of such a high order, religious belief in conflict with payment of taxes affords no basis for resisting the tax," the opinion concluded.

"Summer missions is an education," says mother of BSU volunteer

By Tim Nicholas

Kelly Lane, 19, is one of 65 Mississippi students who will serve this summer as student missionaries appointed by the Mississippi Baptist Student Union. She will work at the Grand Canyon in Arizona.

The president this year of the BSU at Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College, Perkins, Kelly wanted to apply for summer missions last year. But her parents asked her to reconsider.

"We felt she should wait," said her mother, Mrs. Woodfield. "If you go too soon, you can't fulfill the service for which you were intended."

Kelly says she's glad she waited, "because of the way it has fallen into place." She plans to attend Louisiana State University next fall and her parents are willing to help out with the extra costs involved since Kelly will not have a "high-paying" job this summer. (BSU appointees receive \$15 per week). "We feel the summer missions is an education in itself," said Mrs. Woodfield. "I feel it will add greatly to her life."

Kelly said she applied for summer missions as a result of hearing of the experiences of friends who served. "I felt a calling inside me to apply."

Kelly and her parents are members of New Hope Baptist Church in Gulfport. "Our church is strongly mission-oriented," said Mrs. Woodfield. The church directly supports the

Missionaries on furlough

Missionaries now on furlough in Mississippi are:

Bill and Carolyn Smith, Brazil, 3331 Old Canton Road, Jackson; Edd and Freda Trott, Brazil, Pine Trail, Apt. M-4, Springridge Road, Clinton; R. T. and Fran Buckley, Bangladesh, Rt. 2, Box 8, Picayune; Stanley and Glenna Stamps, Nicaragua, 715 E. Northside Drive, Jackson; Cornelia Leavell, Hong Kong, 208 S. Washington St., Starkville.

Roger and Beverly Swann, Tanzania, 416 Ford St., Columbia; Mary D. Stampley, Ghana, 919 Reaves St., Jackson; Mark and Cecile Alexander, Argentina, Box 530, Jackson; Antonina Canzonieri, Bahamas, 5939 Clinton Blvd., Jackson; Bobby and Dolores Magee, Colombia, 100 Georgia Ave., Hattiesburg; Jason and Susan Carlisle (medical leave), Uruguay, 4233 Carter Circle, Jackson; David and Ollie Mayhall, Liberia, 502 S.E. Second St., Magee.

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Staff Changes

John C. Purvis has assumed the pastorate of Goodwater Baptist Church, Lauderdale County. He and his wife, Dee, live in Newton, where he is a third year student at Clarke College.

Calvary Baptist Church, Pascagoula, has called George D. Berger as pastor. He goes from First Baptist Church, Plaquemine, La. Former pastorate include First Baptist, Sumrall, and Indian Hill Church, Greene County. He served on the Mississippi Convention Board while in Sumrall.

Berger is a graduate of William Carey, Clinton University, and New Orleans Seminary. He has done graduate work at Southeastern Louisiana University, LSU, USM, and Nicholls State.

A native of Baton Rouge, he is married to the former Jo Ann Patton of Purvis and they have two daughters, Pam, and Kim.

Gallman Church has called Michael Street as pastor.

Ed L. Masterson has accepted the pastorate of Beulah Baptist Church, Cedar Springs, Ga. He is a student at Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Fl. Masterson and his wife, Patsy, have two children, Shane and Susan. They are from Ocean Springs, Miss.

Missionary News

George and Hilda Cowser, missionaries to Brazil, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 1134 Main Avenue Dr., NW, Hickory, N.C. 28601). Son of Baptist missionaries, he was born in Rio, Brazil, and also lived in Goodman, Miss., and Waco, Texas, while growing up. She is from Granite Falls, N.C.

J. Glenn and Polly Morris, missionaries to Thailand, have arrived in the States on medical leave (address: 4714 Roswell Rd., Apt. D-5, Atlanta, Ga. 30342). He is a native of Atlanta, and she is from Hattiesburg.

William R. Mathis, father of Mrs. H. Doane Robertson, missionary to Peru, died recently in Boaz, Ala. The former Martha Mathis, she was born in Hattiesburg, Miss., and grew up in Boaz, Ala. She may be addressed at Apartado 3177, Lima, Peru.

Second Baptist Church, Indianola called David Allen as minister of youth (not as pastor as reported in a recent issue of the Baptist Record.) Billy Beckett is pastor there.

Beulah Church, Myrtle, has called Tommy Snyder as pastor. He goes from Elbert Baptist Church, Elbert, Tex. He was graduated from Mississippi College and Southwestern Seminary. He is married to the former Joyce Ashcraft of Clinton. They have a son, Gabriel, 1.

Eucletubba Baptist Church's new pastor and wife, Harold and Colleen Hutcheson, have been on the field since March 1. Having served churches in Missouri, Michigan, and Ohio, Hutcheson has returned to his native state. He is a graduate of Mississippi College, Midwestern Seminary, and the University of Toledo. The Hutchesons are available for a limited number of speaking engagements concerning mission needs, and revivals.

Homecomings

First Baptist Church of Loulee, will have its fourth annual homecoming May 2. The featured speaker will be Dale Holloway.

They will have dinner on the ground, after the morning service, plus singing and fellowship. Also there will be a time for recognition of former pastors present. Morning activities will begin at 10 and will continue into the afternoon. "We cordially invite each member or former member, family and friends to attend this event," said Keith McIntyre, homecoming committee chairman.

Union Baptist Church, Highway 15, Hintonville community near Beaumont will have homecoming day on April 25. N. H. Smith, Escatawpa, will be the guest speaker. Lunch will be served at the church at 12, followed by singing in the afternoon. Sunday School will start at 10 a.m. and morning worship at 11. "All members, former members, former pastors, and visitors bring a basket lunch and enjoy the day of worship with us," said Pastor Alton Fagan.

Clarke College ALUMNI HOMECOMING April 17

Newsbriefs In The



World Of Religion

Ridgecrest, N.C. — The second national conference for single adults leaders is scheduled for May 20-24 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Ridgecrest, N.C. The conference, entitled "Accent II," is for all lay and professional workers who have responsibilities for single adults. Single adults who have leadership responsibilities within their single adult groups are also invited to attend. Persons interested in attending the conference should make application by writing to Ann Smith, MSN 140, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234. Application is a prerequisite to registration.

Washington (BP)—The Supreme Court will decide if states may forbid sexual performances by children in legally non-obscene films and magazines. Without comment the justices agreed to review the constitutionality of a 1977 New York law making it a felony to promote any sexual performance by a child under age 16. A separate section of the law prohibits the promotion of sexually obscene performances by children.

(Hasty writes for the Baptist Joint Committee.)

Manila, Philippines — For the fifth year in a row, literature production has increased at the Southern Baptist mission's Baptist Center in Manila, Philippines. In 1981 the center produced 451,000 pieces more than the previous year. Quarterly Sunday School literature alone increased 63 percent. Printed in six languages, the Sunday School, training and Woman's Missionary Union quarterlies, religious

books and tracts amounted to 1,684,000 pieces in 1981.

Paramaribo, Surinam — Anticipating large crowds for Independence Day celebrations Nov. 25, Baptists representing four churches and the United Baptist Organization of Surinam set up a large "funeral" tent in which to share their faith in God. By the end of the day, they had distributed 1,050 packets and hundreds of pieces of loose literature, and witnessed personally to many passers-by. The Christian literature distribution was the first such project for the newly formed association, though Southern Baptist missionaries in Surinam have used the approach frequently since 1973, according to missionary press representative Leo Waldrop.

Umtata, Transkei — The first student to complete the "Who is Jesus?" Bible study course from the new Bible Way Correspondence School in Umtata, Transkei, accepted Christ as her savior. Nosipho Bulwene, a 21-year-old woman who lives in Umtata, returned her completed exam to Southern Baptist missionary journeyman Paul Jones and Ellen Shivers eight years after they opened the correspondence school. The young woman also sent the names of three friends who wished to enroll.

Monrovia, Calif. (EP)—W. Stanley Mooneyham has resigned as President of World Vision International to take on expanded responsibilities as senior advisor to the chairman of the board with that organization.

Bible Book Series



David's growing strength

By Howard E. Spell, Clinton
2 Samuel 3:1, 8, 21, 27; 4:5, 7-8, 12a
In the lesson for April 4, it was noted that God directed David to go to Hebron where he was acknowledged as king of Judah. Ishbosheth, a son of Saul, had been recognized as king over the remaining tribes of Israel.

I. Conflict between the two groups of Israelites (3:1,8,21)
Between the two factions of Israelites there was almost constant warfare, with David and his forces growing ever stronger and Ishbosheth and his followers losing in power. The captain of Saul's army was a very strong individual named Abner and he had been instrumental in establishing Ishbosheth as king over the northern tribes.

Probably because he saw the power of this group waning and also because of Ishbosheth's rebuke of his action concerning a concubine of Saul, Abner decided to abandon Ishbosheth and transfer, not only his own allegiance, but also that of the people of the northern group to David and the tribe of Judah. Abner reminded Ishbosheth that he had put him on the throne rather than delivering him to David but swore that he would now cast his lot with David. Ishbosheth could not answer because he was afraid of Abner (3:11).

Having made up his mind, Abner seemingly lost little time in contacting David and promising to transfer all of Israel to him. One of the conditions of David in these negotiations was that Michal (his first wife, a daughter of Saul) be restored to him. It appears that while David was living apart from the Israelites, Saul had given her to another man. Following Abner's overtures, David sent messengers to Ishbosheth demanding that Michal be returned to him and Ishbosheth had her taken from Paltiel (3:15) and sent to David.

Abner followed up his overtures to David by conferring with the elders of the northern tribes and reminded them they had wanted David to reign over them and that God had said he would save his people from the Philistines by the hand of David. After these contacts Abner and 20 of his chosen men went again to Hebron where he was received kindly by David. Abner promised he would deliver all of Israel to David. Details of the transfer seem to have been worked out satisfactorily for "David sent Abner away, and he went in peace" (3:21 NASV).

II. The death of Abner (3:27)

One can easily picture the feelings between Joab, the commander of David's forces and Abner, the former commander of Saul's army. Here were two strong personalities, commanders of what had been opposing forces, but there was an added dimension to what was likely a strained relationship. Joab's brother, Asahel, had been killed by Abner following the battle between the two armies at Gibeon. Abner, a man of strength and long military experience, had not wanted to kill the less experienced Asahel and had warned him not to keep pursuing him, but Asahel had refused to heed his warning (2:22-24).

Joab had been away from Hebron where Abner came down to work over the details concerning the transfer of allegiance, and when he returned and found Abner had been there and had been allowed to "depart in peace," he became very angry.

Since Joab did not know the details of Abner's visit, he went to David telling him that Abner had been there as a spy and that his design was to deceive David. Then, without David's knowledge, Joab sent messengers after Abner to bring him back to Hebron. Since he had departed in peace Abner had no qualms about returning, but when he did so, Joab called him aside as though to talk quietly with him. Instead of a quiet talk, however, Joab killed him to avenge the death of his brother, Asahel.

III. The death of Ishbosheth (4:5, 7-8, 12a)

When Ishbosheth heard of Abner's death, he became very troubled as did all Israel with him. He likely had little time to worry, however, because two of the men who were captains in his armed forces slipped into his house while he was taking his rest and beheaded him in his bed. They fled from the scene, taking the head of Ishbosheth and went all the way to Hebron. There they said to David, "Behold the head of Ishbosheth, the son of Saul, your enemy who sought your life; thus the Lord has given my lord the king vengeance this day on Saul and his descendants" (4:8b NASV). If they expected praise or to be rewarded, they were sadly disappointed for David had them executed.

IV. Recapitulation

Years had passed since the day God commanded Samuel to go to Bethlehem to the house of Jesse and

anoint a new king over Israel because Saul had failed the Lord and had been rejected as king. Many political maneuvers had been witnessed and many lives had been lost. Surely there had been times when David had wondered about Samuel's words and whether he had been mistaken in what he had understood of that event.

God had not forgotten, however, and in spite of the intrigues of men, he was working out his purpose for David and for Israel. As a shepherd lad David was ill-equipped to serve as king, but the years had brought strength and maturity in judgment.

God still works through persons in the accomplishment of his purpose, however long or devious the ways may seem to individuals. We should keep in mind that he may work in our own lives through events or through persons. We must also remember that God sees the total picture and not just the small segments we may behold. He does not override our wills, but he is ever in the shadow to help us in our needs.

Louisiana Baptists youths prepare for New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Louisiana Baptist youth people will witness door-to-door in six areas of metropolitan New Orleans on the Saturday prior to the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-17.

Calvin Cantrell, associate evangelism director for the Louisiana Baptist Convention, said a 13-week DiscipleYouth training program currently is underway in preparation for the event.

The program, produced by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and Home Mission Board, is designed to teach young people to be better witnesses. Louisiana was selected for the pilot project.

A mass rally in New Orleans Municipal Auditorium June 11—featuring concert musician David Meece and evangelist Arthur Blessitt—will launch the effort.

Some 5,000 young people, mostly high school age, are expected to participate. Most will be from Louisiana, Cantrell said; but others will come from adjoining states. Churches in the areas to be covered are being asked to

Devotional
The forty day ministry

By Bill R. Baker, pastor, First, Clinton

Acts 1:3

Jesus showed himself alive after his passion for forty days. What about his ministry during those forty days? First of all this was a period of evidential ministry. Obviously one purpose of the forty days was to give evidence of his resurrection through several appearances. There were at least ten of these appearances and one of them to over 500 people.

The forty days also afforded the opportunity for the ministry of teaching, especially in relation to evangelism. For example, during this period our Lord revealed his purpose for the disciples—"you shall be witnesses unto me" (Acts 1:8); his plan for missionary advance—"in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth," and power whereby such could be accomplished—"after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you."

The forty days also included the ministry of rekindling. The flame had almost burned out in the hearts of the two pilgrims on the way to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35). They were of sad countenance and suffered from shattered dreams and disappointments. "We trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel," they said, "and beside all this, today is the third day since these things were done." The risen Lord ministered to these two which caused them to say, "did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?" Jesus rose to rekindle the fading flame, and demonstrated that during the forty days.

The risen Christ also involved himself in the ministry of reclamation (John 21:1-14). Simon Peter decided to give up and go back and so he said, "I go a-fishing." Jesus appears on the scene to reclaim and reassign.

The ministry of forty days was also a ministry of hope. The promise was left that he would return "in like manner as ye have seen him go" (Acts 1:11).

Surely during these forty days our Lord would engage himself in these ministries which he considered to be most critical—teaching, rekindling, reclaiming, and offering hope. From this forty day ministry the church may better understand her 365 day ministry each year.



Baker

flame had almost burned out in the hearts of the two pilgrims on the way to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35). They were of sad countenance and suffered from shattered dreams and disappointments. "We trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel," they said, "and beside all this, today is the third day since these things were done." The risen Lord ministered to these two which caused them to say, "did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?" Jesus rose to rekindle the fading flame, and demonstrated that during the forty days.

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Watson and Wiltshire

Providence honors 'first male member,' Bill Wiltshire

Providence Baptist Church, Carroll County, honored its first male member, a member of long standing, on March 28, with a dinner. The morning service honored him "in grateful appreciation for faithfulness, loyalty, and dedication in service to our Lord, his church and the Providence community." Bill Wiltshire, right, of Route 2, Box 241, Carrollton was presented a plaque, a book of letters from friends, and a love offering of over \$200.

"Brother Bill," as he is affectionately known, was "the very beginning" at a "brush-arbor" meeting in 1939 which was held on his property on a road by his home. The meetings moved into his home and later into several other homes in the community as the gatherings (later congregation) grew. For a long time "Brother Bill" was the only man in the congregation.

The members of the congregation contacted, secretly, a lot of his friends and kinsmen and invited them to his surprise recognition. He said he began to wonder what was happening when a number of his friends began showing up for services. He described the event as leaving him speechless and with a heart overflowing with joy. Bennie Watson, left, pastor, presented the plaque.

Five in one day

CINCINNATI (BP) — Five church-type missions were established in a single day by Cincinnati Baptists, the biggest one-day achievement in a two-year effort to launch new missions.

The starts are part of an outreach effort by the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio called "104 Miracle Weeks," an attempt to start one new mission a week in 1981-82. So far, about 50 church-type missions have begun.

The five new missions cover a 30-mile range.

Tennessee Baptists get dam ready for next rainy season

OUAGADOUGOU, Upper Volta (BP)—Tennessee Baptists have finished two-thirds of an earthen dam for the Diabo Circle region of Upper Volta, enough to hold the next season's rains even if the dam is not complete.

In spite of the mechanical breakdowns, scarcity of spare parts, and shortages of equipment and workers, the Tennessee volunteers have worked for more than five months—hauling, dumping and packing tons of rock and dirt—in an effort to finish the dam before the rainy season starts in late

May. The dam for a 55-acre lake is only part of a total development project embracing 17 villages in the Diabo Circle region of this West African nation. Besides developing water resources, Southern Baptist missionaries and Tennessee Baptists have joined in a three- to five-year project aiding villagers with agricultural, health, educational, environmental and evangelistic development. The Foreign Mission Board considers the project a pilot.

Life and Work Lesson



The resurrection in life

By James L. Travis
Pastoral Services
University Medical Center, Jackson
Paul concludes this remarkable letter to the church at Corinth in a progression of instruction concerning the resurrection in which he makes specific application to life. His inspired insight takes us from the peaks of faithful imagining of what the resurrection day will be like, to the specific needs facing the Corinthian church.

I. The resurrection day (15:51-56): In this passage Paul is dealing with a burst of inspiration regarding the resurrection day. He does not go into great detail in spelling out the implications of the eschaton. What he does is to share his faithful view of how God enables his people to move from life in the flesh to life in an incorruptible existence.

Someone has pointed out that there are three theories about the time of the resurrection. One theory is that the soul goes to sleep at death and remains asleep until the Lord returns. With the second coming of the Lord the body is recreated and the soul is awakened from the sleep. Then occurs the resurrection. Another theory is that when the person dies the soul goes to be with the Lord in a disembodied state. The resurrection occurs when, at the time of the second coming, the body is recreated and the soul returns to be reunited with the body.

However, a third theory that seems more nearly to fit the witness of the New Testament is that there are two realities: the created order and eternity. As long as we are living in this created order then indeed time exists in past, present, and future. In eternity, however, the dimension of time simply does not apply. When one dies one moves out of the created order into eternal life. In that dimension time is as God views it, namely, the eternal present. However, the time is not as of great consequence to Paul as are the hope and faithful anticipation that resurrection will occur.

II. The power for perseverance (15:57-58): Paul has just drawn upon the Old Testament to sound the triumphant note that all of the great horror of death is swallowed up in the victory of the resurrection. It is not as though death does not still occur, but it has lost its venomous sting in the hope that it is not the end of all things.

Now with a grateful expression to

God for this victory through Jesus Christ, Paul writes what is perhaps one of the most important statements in all of his letters. He encourages his brothers and sisters in the faith at Corinth to stand firm on the basis of that hope in the resurrection, to continue to persevere in their efforts of faithful endeavor in the reassurance that labor in the Lord is not an empty and futile task. Paul speaks to how that works out in his life in 16:9 where in the same sentence he describes the great open door for his effective work in Ephesus and yet also notes that there is considerable opposition to his work. He can see hopeful opportunity in spite of the opposition, because he knows that to labor in the Lord is never in vain.

Verse 58 is pivotal, because it essentially underscores the hope that there is now a way through, that death is not the end of the human story. On our honeymoon almost twenty-five years ago, Pat and I were headed for an idyllic little spot in the mountains of North Carolina. Enroute we not only got lost but had to take a detour through some rather treacherous roads in the mountains. Added to our troubles was a fierce thunderstorm which caused some minor rockslides on our way. It was already night. We could see no signs of civilization and had gone for a number of miles without meeting any traffic. I began to worry that the road ahead may be impassable and we would be forced to turn around and retrace our steps. All of a sudden I saw what for me then was the most beautiful sight I could imagine. It was the sight of approaching headlights. Within itself that was no great thing, but to me it served as a symbol that the road was passable at least for a ways ahead.

And this is what Paul is saying to the Corinthian Christians. The road of life and death is passable, and our guarantee of that is the power of the resurrection through Jesus Christ.

III. The resurrection in life (16:1-2, 13:14): Paul moves down from the heights of his exalted vision of the resurrection day to talk about the grimy specifics of earthly living. There was a pressing need in Jerusalem for financial assistance. The Christians there were undergoing hard times. Paul had begun a collection in several of the churches in which he had previously worked. He concludes with his mundane admonition that they are to prop-

ortunately set aside some money to share with their Christian brothers and sisters in Jerusalem. For those of us who despair when it seems as though church consists primarily of doing the grubby and grimy mundane chores, we need to take note from how Paul expresses his faith. If the resurrection is to mean anything at all to us in this life, then it must find application through the way in which we demonstrate love for others.

Because of the resurrection we can be courageous and strong, standing firmly in our faith, and we can exercise that love and compassion without which all our most noble efforts are empty, futile expressions of human endeavor.

Memorial adds Ozarks unit

HARDY, Ark.—Eastern Ozarks Community Hospital in Cherokee Village near here officially has changed its name becoming a part of Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., in Memphis.

The newly-named Baptist Memorial Hospital-Eastern Ozarks now provides 60 long-term nursing beds and 10 acute hospital beds. Plans call for the facility to be converted to a 40-bed general care hospital, according to Bill Moore Smith, administrative assistant at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis.

All applicable regulatory agencies have approved the sale of the hospital, making BMH-Eastern Ozarks the fifth hospital in 20 months to become affiliated with Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis.

The Baptist Health Care System is the corporation formed recently to oversee the growing range of health services provided by Southern Baptists in Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee.

Other hospitals in the system are located in Corning, Ark.; Ripley and Covington, Tenn., and Booneville, Miss.

Jakarta, Indonesia — Following recent trends of mission cooperation among Baptists in southeast Asia, Hong Kong and Indonesian Baptists will jointly support an Indonesian couple to work on an island near Singapore.

Uniform Lesson

The Emmaus experience

By Louie Farmer, Jr., Hattiesburg
Luke 24:13-35

Mighty, history-changing things had been happening in Jerusalem. On Friday Jesus of Nazareth had been crucified, along with two ordinary criminals. His disciples had almost abandoned him in their confusion and fear. Although some of them had watched from a distance, it was left for others to bury him. During the Sabbath the body of Jesus was in a tomb which was sealed and guarded by Roman soldiers.

When Mary Magdalene and some other women had come to the tomb very early on Sunday morning they had found it empty. Peter and John had confirmed that the tomb was empty but as yet could give no reason for it. Depression, disappointment, and frustration had set in and the group of followers were beginning to disintegrate.

I. The two going to Emmaus (Luke 24:12-13)

Two of the disciples were going to a place called Emmaus late on Sunday afternoon. We are not sure who they were. Luke gives the name of one as Cleopas. The other remains nameless in the scriptures. They were not of "the eleven" but were among "the others" who gathered with the disciples.

We do not know who the companion of Cleopas was, but there are several theories. Alfred Edersheim says, "the other, unnamed, has, for that very reason, and because the narrative of that work bears in its vividness the character of personal recollection, been identified with St. Luke himself."

Leslie D. Weatherhead has been quoted as suggesting that the companion of Cleopas was his wife. Each of these suggestions makes sense to me. I can find no way to discount either. My preference is the suggestion that the companion of Cleopas was his wife. This seems to fit the idea of these disciples going home after the seeming collapse of their messianic hopes and of their taking this strange but interesting teacher into their home for the night.

We have little definite assurance of the location of Emmaus. Luke tells us it was 60 stadia, or just less than seven miles from Jerusalem. We think it was on the road to Lydda, northwest of Jerusalem.

II. On the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:15-27)

Luke pictures Cleopas and his com-

panion going along the road in the late afternoon, in the very depths of disappointment and despair. As they walked and talked Jesus himself overtook them. We do not know how long he walked along with them before his compassion caused him to initiate a conversation. He said something like, "What are you folk talking about in such a gloomy way?"

Certainly the two disciples were not psychologically prepared to meet Jesus then. In addition, we really do not understand the resurrection body. We cannot say what these disciples could or should have perceived. Whatever the circumstances, they did not recognize him.

They had difficulty understanding that anyone coming from Jerusalem would not know why they were so despondent. Cleopas said, "You must be the only man in Jerusalem that does not know what has been happening there the past few days." Of course, Jesus knew but he wanted to hear it from them. So he asked, "What things?"

This gave the disciples the opening they needed to bring this obviously uninformed stranger up to date in the current news in Jerusalem. They told him it was about Jesus of Nazareth who was a prophet and was considered mighty by God and man. (Notice that they gave no hint of the spiritual nature or the divinity of Jesus.) They had hoped he would be the one to redeem Israel but three days ago the leaders of the Jewish religion had caused him to be crucified.

Some women had gone to the tomb early that very morning and had found the body gone. They reported that an angel had told them Jesus was alive. Some men had checked it out and found that the tomb was indeed empty but no one had seen Jesus. Evidently, they had left the other followers of Jesus before Mary had reported she had seen Jesus.

Jesus called them fools or foolish ones. The force of this statement is too strong in English. It should be more like, "You just don't understand." What they failed to understand was that the Old Testament scriptures spoke many things about him. He began with the books of Moses and showed them how the scriptures told about him and of his sufferings.

III. In Emmaus (Luke 24:28-32)

Most likely Jesus was still opening the scriptures to them when they came

to the village of Emmaus. He put a conclusion on his teaching and began to say "Goodbye" so that he could continue on his way. Cleopas and his companion would have none of that. The day (what a long and eventful day it had been!) was almost gone so they asked him to stay with them. It was a Jewish custom to offer food and lodging to a traveler and besides, they were interested in hearing more of his teaching.

Jesus went to their home (or wherever they were to spend the night) and prepared to eat with them. "He sat at table with them." This is a modern custom injected into the scripture. The Greek does not say they "sat at table" but that they "reclined" and does not even include the words "at table." This was their normal manner of eating. Sitting to eat would have been as unusual for them as reclining to eat would be for us.

It is not clear why Jesus acted as the host, but he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to them. Maybe the bearing of authority and the charisma of Jesus just naturally made it the thing to do, although Cleopas and the other disciple still had not recognized him. They must have seen him bless and break bread many times before. As he did so now, they recognized him. His mission here was completed, so he disappeared from their sight.

They began to discuss what they had experienced. "Was it not so very exciting as we talked with him along the road?" they said.

IV. Back in Jerusalem (Luke 24:34,35)

Cleopas and the other disciple left their uneaten meal and rushed back to Jerusalem to share their good news with the group still gathered there. They arrived at the meeting place of the disciples with what they thought was the first word of the risen Lord, only to be greeted with, "The Lord has risen! Simon has seen him." Then they were allowed to tell "THE EMMAUS EXPERIENCE" and its very pronounced effect on them.

Application
When we have problems that seem unsolvable, Jesus is the answer. He is with us just as he was with the two on the road to Emmaus but the answer, the victory, the joy, and the peace only come when we recognize his presence.

The best way out of a difficulty is through it.—Anonymous